

The Abstract

The invention is an apparatus and method for managing the preventative maintenance requirements and unscheduled repairs on a fleet of vehicles. The apparatus includes a computer system having a host processor and a database accessible by the host processor, and at least one maintenance response station communicating with the host processor. The database contains vehicle specific maintenance schedules indicating recommended maintenance intervals for scheduled maintenance, where each scheduled maintenance has associated maintenance tasks.

The method includes the steps of:

- 10 a. periodically receiving signals at the host processor containing maintenance trigger data associated with a specific vehicle in the fleet of vehicles;
- b. comparing the received maintenance trigger data to maintenance schedule data contained in the database;
- 15 c. for each comparison in step b, determining whether maintenance is indicated; and
- d. if maintenance is indicated, identifying the vehicle at a vehicle response station.